

COMMUNITY RESOURCE GUIDE

Compiled by the Interpreters' Coalition of Springfield-Greene County

**Information to assist in utilizing the varied resources
of our community toward field education and
hands-on learning experiences**

2012-2013

**http://www.discoverycenter.org/curriculum/items/Interpreter_booklet.pdf
www.OzarksEnvironment.com**

(Updated 7/2012)

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Interpreters' Coalition

Children acquire fundamental concepts through active participation with their environment. As young children explore their surroundings, they begin to construct their own knowledge (Lind, 1998).

While the school classroom remains the primary instructional center, out-of-classroom experiences can bring a sense of wonderment and curiosity about the world to young learners. The Springfield area is rich with community resources that can provide educational experiences for students that might not otherwise be available to them.

In a truly collaborative effort, the Interpreters' Coalition utilizes the varied resources of our community toward field education and hands-on learning experiences. The Coalition was formed to help meet the educational needs of students and currently consists of partner members ranging from non-profit organizations to governmental agencies. This group of informal educators represents cross-curricular interests and expertise including science and the environment, history and social studies, communication and technology, and the arts. The Coalition sponsors an annual field trip for teachers, known as "Free-Wheelin' Friday". This event gives local educators an opportunity to find out about the various educational resources available throughout the city of Springfield.

The Air and Military Museum of the Ozarks AMMO

Mission: To collect historical memorabilia and artifacts from all branches of the military, to restore, preserve, and display them for remembrance, and to educate the public and provide a “hands on” environment to demonstrate military equipment that was used in the wars fought to preserve America’s freedoms.

Location: The museum is located at 2305 E. Kearney.

Contact Information: Visit our web site at www.ammomuseum.org, or call (417) 864-7997.

Availability: We are open Tuesday through Saturday, 12 to 4pm.

Programs: The Air and Military Museum of the Ozarks offers to all grade school students and scouting organizations a program of military history and science that teaches and entertains young students about the history of wars fought to preserve our freedoms. We call it “Museum School.” There is always an experienced volunteer on duty to answer your military questions.

Age/Grade Level: We welcome groups of any age.

Group Size: The museum can accommodate groups of 50 people.

Student/Adult Ratio: The scheduling organization should provide one adult per ten children.

Fees: Adults..... \$5
Children 12 to 7.....\$3
Children 6 and under.....FREE

Notes: Birthday parties-We are an enjoyable venue for birthday parties for those who wish to celebrate in an atmosphere of military history and equipment. Bring your cameras! Actually feel jeeps, trucks, Cobra helicopter, and a jet fighter. Cost is \$7 per birthday celebrant and birthday guests. This includes an authentic military dog tag, custom engraved for each guest. No charge for accompanying adults.

Lunch: We are located about three blocks East of Glenstone; there you will find many fast food restaurants.

American National Fish and Wildlife Museum Wonders of Wildlife

Mission: To educate, inform and entertain visitors concerning the value of fish and wildlife, to help them appreciate our heritage of hunting and fishing, and to motivate their personal involvement in the conservation of our outdoor resources.

Location: **Museum location:** 500 W. Sunshine Street, Springfield, MO (At the corner of Sunshine and Campbell)
 Education Center: 726 W Sunshine Street, Springfield Mo (Just west of the Museum)

Contact Information: Phone: 417-890-9453, ask for the education department.
Website: <http://www.wondersofwildlife.org>

Availability: Museum is currently closed for a major renovation and expansion project with a projected opening date for the entire complex late 2012. Education programs for all ages are available at the Conservation Education Center or on outreach throughout the year.

Programs: Conservation Education Center Classroom and Outreach programs include live animals, touchable artifacts, and engaging activities. Pre and post visit activities will accompany each age appropriate classroom program. Topics include Animal Introductions, Life Cycles, Food Chains, Ecosystems, Adaptations, Classification, and Lewis & Clark. Lab programs include live animals, touchable artifacts, and dissection of a rat, frog, squid, or owl pellet. Wonders of Wildlife is also home to WOW school and National Hunting and Fishing Day. Both events allow families the opportunity to experience the outdoors together. WOW school is taught in 5 locations across the state of Missouri, check out the website for more details.

Age/Grade Level: Working closely with teachers and administrators, our educators have designed a wide range of classes and programs that meet national, state and local curriculum standards in K-12.

Group Size: All groups can be accommodated, from large flocks to small herds.
(minimum 15 for group pricing)

Fees:

Classroom Programs:

Applies to educational groups of 20 or more.

Students \$2.00

Chaperones Free

Outreach Programs:

60 minute program \$100.00 (up to 35 students), additional programs on same day \$50.00

30 minute program \$75.00 (up to 35 students), additional programs on same day \$50.00

Locations farther than 25 miles from Springfield will be assessed a travel charge.

Call for more details 417-225-1118.

City of Springfield Busch Building and Historic City Hall

Mission: The people of our community are the only reason we are here. Therefore, we are committed to WORKING WITH THE COMMUNITY to provide ethical and responsible local government so that everyone can enjoy the benefits of living and working in Springfield.

Location: 840 Boonville Avenue, Springfield

Contact Information: City of Springfield Public Information Office – 864-1105

Availability: Monday through Friday, 8 a.m. until 4 p.m.

Programs: We will work with teachers in any way we can. The City of Springfield can set up tours of the History Museum, the Fire Museum, as well as the Busch Building and Historic City Hall with Council Chambers.

Age/Grade Level: Any school age accepted. Younger ages do not receive as much historical information, and may not enjoy facts presented as much as the older children, but there is information for all ages.

Group Size: Any size group, but larger groups will be divided into smaller groups. Smaller groups of 10 or less are preferred, but 12 to 15 are acceptable.

Student/Adult ratio: We do not furnish chaperones. Number of adults that accompany is up to Teacher's discretion.

Fees: There is no cost for tours.

Lunch Provisions: Jordan Valley Park is the nearest park. We have had teachers order food and bring it or deliver it to the Busch Building. Children can then have lunch in the employee break room after the tour.

City of Springfield
Department of Environmental Services
Franklin Avenue Recycling Center

Mission: The Mission of the City of Springfield's Solid Waste Management Division is to provide an Integrated Solid Waste Management System for Springfield and Greene County that is environmentally sound and economically feasible which represents a long-term solution to preserve the national resources of the region for present and future generations.

Location: 713 North Franklin Avenue, Springfield

Contact Information: Barbara Lucks, Interim Sustainability Officer
Department of Environmental Services
Recycling Hotline 417-864-1904
417-864-2005 (phone)
417-864-1906 (fax)
blucks@springfieldmo.gov
www.springfieldmo.gov/recycling

Availability: Tuesday – Friday from 8:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m., by reservation

Programs: Tours of the City of Springfield's Franklin Avenue Recycling Center are available for groups of any size. Activities include encouraging students to collect and prepare their recyclables, bringing them to the Recycling Center. Presenters then assist the students in getting the items into the correct recycling containers and show the students examples of products made from the recycled materials.

Age/Grade Level: We welcome groups of all ages.

Group Size: Tours of the City of Springfield's Franklin Avenue Recycling Center are available for groups of any size. On-site, groups will be organized into touring groups of up to 25 people, depending on age (younger students will have fewer in each group).

Student/Adult Ratio: Because of potential liability concerns, heavy equipment, etc., we request an adult/student ratio of one adult per 10 students. We have one person, in addition to the presenter, available to accompany the touring group.

Fees: There is no charge for the tours.

Note: We will be happy to work with "packaged tours" or assist in creating a "customized" tour for your group. Some other related City owned/operated facilities include: the Household Chemical Collection Center, the Lone Pine Avenue Recycling Center, the Springfield Sanitary Landfill, The Yardwaste Recycling Center or Southwest Wastewater Treatment Plant. Tours centered around a theme of waste reduction/recycling or water quality are especially well-suited for these facilities.

Lunch Provisions: The closest fast food restaurants serving The Franklin Avenue Recycling Center are located at Chestnut and West Bypass. Nichols Park or Grant Beach Park offers a location for enjoying a sack lunch.

City of Springfield
Department of Environmental Services
Household Chemical Collection Center

Mission: The Mission of the City of Springfield's Solid Waste Management Division is to provide an Integrated Solid Waste Management System for Springfield and Greene County that is environmentally sound and economically feasible which represents a long-term solution to preserve the national resources of the region for present and future generations.

Location: 1226 West Nichols (just east of Kansas on Nichols), Springfield

Contact Information: Barbara Lucks, Interim Sustainability Officer
Department of Environmental Services
Recycling Hotline 417-864-1904
417-864-2005 (phone)
417-864-1906 (fax)
blucks@springfieldmo.gov
www.springfieldmo.gov/recycling

Availability: Monday – Friday from 8:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m., by reservation

Programs: Tours of the Household Chemical Collection Center are available. Activities include familiarizing students with the “signal words”, such as “caution”, “poison”, etc., relating the activities of the Center to water quality protection efforts, etc.

Age/Grade Level: Tours of the City of Springfield’s Household Chemical Collection Center are available for groups of any size. On-site, groups will be organized into touring groups of up to 25 people, depending on age (younger students will have fewer in each group).

Group Size: We welcome groups of second-graders or older.

Student/Adult Ratio: Because of potential liability concerns, we request an adult/student ratio of one adult per 10 students. We have one person, in addition to the presenter, available to accompany the touring group.

Fees: There is no charge for the tours.

Notes: We will be happy to work with “packaged tours” or assist in creating a “customized” tour for your group. Some other related City owned/operated facilities include: the Lone Pine Avenue and Franklin Avenue Recycling Centers, the Springfield Sanitary Landfill, The Yardwaste Recycling Center or Southwest Wastewater Treatment Plant. Tours centered around a theme of waste reduction/recycling or water quality are especially well-suited for these facilities.

Lunch Provisions: The closest fast food restaurants serving The Household Chemical Collection Center are located at Chestnut and West Bypass. Nichols Park or Grant Beach Park offers a location for enjoying a sack lunch.

City of Springfield
Department of Environmental Services
Lone Pine Avenue Recycling Center

Mission: The Mission of the City of Springfield's Solid Waste Management Division is to provide an Integrated Solid Waste Management system for Springfield and Greene County that is environmentally sound and economically feasible which represents a long-term solution to preserve the national resources of the region for present and future generations.

Location: 3020 South Lone Pine (1 block east of Lone Pine and Battlefield), Springfield

Contact Information: Barbara Lucks, Interim Sustainability Officer
Department of Environmental Services
Recycling Hotline 417-864-1904
417-864-2005 (phone)
417-864-1906 (fax)
blucks@springfieldmo.gov
www.springfieldmo.gov/recycling

Availability: Tuesday – Friday from 8:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m., by reservation

Programs: Tours of the Lone Pine Avenue Recycling Center are available. Activities include encouraging students to collect and prepare their recyclables, bringing them to the Recycling Center. Presenters then assist the students in getting the items into the correct recycling containers and show the students examples of products made from the recycled materials.

Age/Grade Level: We welcome groups of all ages.

Group Size: Tours of the City of Springfield's most popular Recycling Center are available for groups of any size. On-site, groups will be organized into touring groups of up to 25 people, depending on age (younger students will have fewer in each group).

Student/Adult Ratio: Because of potential liability concerns, heavy equipment, etc., we request an adult/student ratio of one adult per 10 students. We have one person, in addition to the presenter, available to accompany the touring group.

Fees: There is no charge for the tours.

Notes: We will be happy to work with "packaged tours" or assist in creating a "customized" tour for your group. Some other related City owned/operated facilities include: the Household Chemical Collection Center, the Franklin Recycling Center, The Yardwaste Recycling Center, Springfield Sanitary Landfill or Southwest Wastewater Treatment Plant. Tours centered around a theme of waste reduction/recycling or water quality are especially well-suited for these facilities.

Lunch Provisions: The Lone Pine Recycling Center is located within just a few blocks of many fast food facilities and Sequiota Park.

City of Springfield
Department of Environmental Services
Sanitary Landfill and Noble Hill Renewable Energy Center

Mission: The Mission of the City of Springfield's Solid Waste Management Division is to provide an Integrated Solid Waste Management System for Springfield and Greene County that is environmentally sound and economically feasible which represents a long-term solution to preserve the national resources of the region for present and future generations.

Location: 9 miles north of I-44 on Hwy 13, then left onto Farm Road 34.

Contact Information: Barbara Lucks, Interim Sustainability Officer
Department of Environmental Services
Recycling Hotline 417-864-1904
417-864-2005 (phone)
417-864-1906 (fax)
blucks@springfieldmo.gov
www.springfieldmo.gov/recycling

Availability: Monday – Friday from 9:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m., by reservation

Programs: Tours of the Springfield Sanitary Landfill are available.

Age/Grade Level: We welcome groups of second-graders or older.

Group Size: Tours of the City of Springfield's Sanitary Landfill are available for groups of any size. On-site, groups will be organized into touring groups of up to 25 people, depending on age (younger students will have fewer in each group).

Student/Adult Ratio: Because of potential liability concerns, heavy equipment, etc., we request an adult/student ratio of one adult per 10 students (younger students may require more adult supervision). We have one person, in addition to the presenter, available to accompany the touring group.

Fees: There is no charge for the tours.

Notes: We will be happy to work with “packaged tours” or assist in creating a “customized” tour for your group. Some other related City owned/operated facilities include: the Household Chemical Collection Center, the Lone Pine or Franklin Recycling Centers, The Yardwaste Recycling Center or Southwest Wastewater Treatment Plant. Tours centered around a theme of waste reduction/recycling or water quality are especially well-suited for these facilities.

Lunch Provisions: Nearby accommodations for lunch are the picnic area at the entrance to Dickerson Park Zoo (near the junction of Highway 13 and Norton Road). The closest fast food restaurants are available at Highway 13 and I-44.

**City of Springfield
Public Works Department
Storm Water Services Division**

Mission: The Storm Water Services Division is committed to the advancement and continuous improvement of the quality of life for the citizens of Springfield by being a leader in the development of storm water solutions to meet the needs of the community and by placing the welfare and safety of the public above all other considerations.

Location: Jordan Creek North Branch (National/Division) or other urban streams or storm water demonstration areas depending upon the desired program.

Contact Information: Carrie Lamb, Storm Water Technician
840 Boonville Ave
Phone: (417) 864-1996
Fax: (417) 864-1907
clamb@springfieldmo.gov
www.springfieldmo.gov/stormwater

Availability: Monday – Friday from 8:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m., by reservation

Programs: Lessons and activities to provide students with an understanding of storm water runoff in urban areas and personal actions to prevent storm water pollution.

Age/Grade Level: All levels

Group Size: One adult/10 students is requested.

Fees: None

Lunch Provisions: Locations are typically at or near a city park where picnic tables are available and fast food options nearby.

City of Springfield
Department of Environmental Services
Sustainability Division

Mission: The Mission of the City of Springfield's Department of Environmental Services Sustainability Division is to support and encourage environmental practices in Springfield and Greene County that are environmentally sound and economically feasible which represents a long-term solution to preserve the national resources of the region for present and future generations.

Location: Environmental Resource Center, 290 E. Central, Springfield, MO 65802

Contact Information: Barbara Lucks, Interim Sustainability Officer
Department of Environmental Services – Sustainability Division
Recycling Hotline 417-864-1904
417-864-2005 (phone)
417-864-1906 (fax)
blucks@springfieldmo.gov
www.springfieldmo.gov/recycling
www.OzarksEnvironment.com

Availability: *Office Hours:* Monday – Friday from 8:00am – 5:00pm – *Program Hours:* Anytime

Programs: The Sustainability Division of the City of Springfield's Department of Environmental Services Education Outreach Section includes: Coordination and delivery of educational activities for the Department of Environmental Services facilities listed in this book. Resources include: Brochures, recycling hotline, website, activity guides, trade-show type displays, check-out kits, DVD's and more. Programs include: Show-Me Yards & Neighborhoods (Environmentally Responsible Lawn Care), vermicomposting (classroom food waste complete with living worms), interactive activities for special events (ex: Recycling Relay Race, Recycling Bean Bag Toss Game, etc.), and special event recycling. Focus areas include: Air Quality, Water Quality, Water Conservation, Stormwater Management, Solid Waste Management/Recycling, Waste Water Management, and Sustainability. *This office will also facilitate themed all-day multi-bus field trips to any destination in this guide.*

Age/Grade Level: We welcome groups of all ages.

Group Size: Dependant on facilities toured - Tours of the City of Springfield recycling facilities are available for groups of any size. On-site, groups will be organized into touring groups of up to 25, depending on age (younger students will have fewer in each group).

Student/Adult Ratio: Because of potential liability concerns, heavy equipment, etc., we request an adult/student ratio of one adult per 10 students. We have one person, in addition to the presenter, available to accompany the touring group.

Fees: There is no charge for the tours.

Lunch Provisions: The closest fast food restaurants serving the Environmental Resource Center are located at Glenstone and Kearney area. Nichols Park or Grant Beach Park offers a location for enjoying a sack lunch.

City of Springfield
Department of Environmental Services
Wastewater Treatment Plants

Mission: The City is committed to maintaining an efficient sanitary sewer system to assure the most effective level of wastewater collection and treatment for the protection of our community's health and environment.

Availability: Monday through Friday 8:00am – 12:00pm and 1:00pm – 3:00pm

Programs: Tours of the Northwest and Southwest Wastewater Treatment Plant are available.

Age/Grade Level: 6th grade and above.

Group Size: Any size group can be accommodated. They will be broken into groups of 20-25 and a minimum of one adult is required per 20-25 students. We do not have extra personnel available, other than the tour guide, to accompany the students.

Fees: None

Notes: We can tie in tours with curriculum and testing by utilizing an instructor's hand-out with questions and answers covered during the tour.

Northwest Wastewater Treatment Plant

Contact Information:

Charles Parrot 417-833-0697

Fax: 417-833-5437

cparrott@springfieldmo.gov

Location: 4801 N. State Highway 13—3.5 miles north on west side of State Hwy. 13

Lunch Provisions: Nearest restaurant: Kansas at Kearney, approximately 5 miles from the site.

Southwest Wastewater Treatment Plant

Contact Information:

Jim Burks 417-891-1600 x141

Fax: 417-891-1609

jburks@springfieldmo.gov

Location: 3301 S. FF Highway

Lunch Provisions: Nearest restaurant: Kansas at Battlefield, approximately 5 miles from the site.

City of Springfield
Department of Environmental Services
Yardwaste Recycling Center

Mission: The Mission of the City of Springfield's Solid Waste Management Division is to provide an Integrated Solid Waste Management System for Springfield and Greene County that is environmentally sound and economically feasible which represents a long-term solution to preserve the national resources of the region for present and future generations.

Location: near the Southwest Waste Water Treatment Plant: go west on Sunshine (Hwy. 60), turn left (south) onto Farm Road 115, turn left (east) onto Farm Road 164 and follow the signs to the Center.

Contact Information: Barbara Lucks, Interim Sustainability Officer
Department of Environmental Services
Recycling Hotline 417-864-1904
417-864-2005 (phone)
417-864-1906 (fax)
blucks@springfieldmo.gov
www.springfieldmo.gov/recycling

Availability: Monday – Friday from 8:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m., by reservation

Programs: Tours of the Yardwaste Recycling Center are available. Activities include familiarizing students with the concept of decomposition and waste reduction.

Age/Grade Level: We welcome groups of second-graders or older.

Group Size: Tours of the City of Springfield's Yardwaste Recycling Center are available for groups of any size. On-site, groups will be organized into touring groups of up to 25 people, depending on age (younger students will have fewer in each group).

Student/Adult Ratio: Because of potential liability concerns, we request an adult/student ratio of one adult per 10 students (younger students may require additional adult supervision). We have one person, in addition to the presenter, available to accompany the touring group.

Fees: There is no charge for the tours.

Notes: We will be happy to work with “packaged tours” or assist in creating a “customized” tour for your group. Some other related City owned/operated facilities include: the Lone Pine Avenue and Franklin Avenue Recycling Centers, the Springfield Sanitary Landfill, The Household Chemical Collection Center or Southwest Wastewater Treatment Plant. Tours centered around a theme of waste reduction/recycling or water quality are especially well-suited for these facilities.

Lunch Provisions: The closest fast food restaurants serving The Yardwaste Recycling Center are located at Kansas and Battlefield or on West Sunshine or South Campbell. Wilson's Creek National Battlefield is located nearby.

City Utilities - Fulbright Water Treatment Plant

City Utilities - Blackman Water Treatment Plant

Mission: City Utilities of Springfield, Missouri, is a municipal utility governed by the Board of Public Utilities. City Utilities is engaged in the production and distribution of electricity, the distribution of natural gas, the treatment and distribution of water, telecommunication services, and public transportation for the City of Springfield and the surrounding area. City Utilities and its employees recognize the critical role of education in the community and strive to provide students and teachers with opportunities to enrich and advance their learning experiences. With approximately 1,000 people of diverse backgrounds, interests and skills, CU's employees take pride in answering the call when community needs must be met. That is why we are proud to provide the following information to help you, the educator, in making the connections between the classroom, community, environment and business.

Location: Fulbright Plant is located at 3920 N. Farmer Rd. Blackman Plant is located at 2601 S. Blackman Rd.

Contact Information: Sherry Raney, 831-8881, e-mail Sherry.Raney@cityutilities.net

Availability: Tours are available March through November; on Tuesday through Thursday, if tour guides are available. The last tour time of the day is 3:00 p.m. The tour will take approximately 45 to 60 minutes.

Programs: Curriculum connections: Physical Science, source and treatment of drinking water, effects of science and technology, impact science has on careers. We do not have adequate staff to do classroom presentations. All tours are subject to tour guide availability. Because the security of CU's water treatment facilities is top priority, safety guidelines will be given at the beginning of the tour and must be followed. Reservations need to be made at least a week in advance.

Age/Grade Level: Students taking these tours must be sixth grade level or higher.

Group Size: Maximum group of 30 people (will be divided into two groups of 15 for touring)

Student/Adult Ratio: Age 18 or under, must have one parent or teacher per 10 students.

Fees: There is no charge for the tour.

Lunch Provisions: Fulbright Plant is located near the Zoo and all the restaurants on West Kearney.

City Utilities – James River Power Station

Mission: City Utilities of Springfield, Missouri, is a municipal utility governed by the Board of Public Utilities. City Utilities is engaged in the production and distribution of electricity, the distribution of natural gas, the treatment and distribution of water, telecommunication services, and public transportation for the City of Springfield and the surrounding area. City Utilities and its employees recognize the critical role of education in the community and strive to provide students and teachers with opportunities to enrich and advance their learning experiences. With approximately 1,000 people of diverse backgrounds, interests and skills, CU's employees take pride in answering the call when community needs must be met. That is why we are proud to provide the following information to help you, the educator, in making the connections between the classroom, community, environment and business.

Location: James River Power Station (JRPS), 5701 S. Kissick – at Springfield Lake. JRPS has seven generation units with a combined capacity of 410 Megawatts of power.

Contact Information: Matt Kastner, 874-8072 or 863-9000, Matt.Kastner@cityutilities.net

Availability: 8:00 AM to 4:00 PM, Monday through Friday. (Best to schedule 1-2 weeks ahead).

Programs: Curriculum connections: Physical Science, sources of energy, effects of science and technology, impact science has on careers. Additional outreach opportunities with topics and classroom speakers – energy conservation, measurements of electricity, fossil fuels, electrical safety, value of education.

Age/Grade Level: Must be at least 10 years of age

Group Size: Maximum of 25

Student/Adult Ratio: At least one adult per 10 attendees is required. A list of all people attending is required upon arrival from the tour leader. On-site chaperones are sometimes available.

Fees: No Fee

Lunch Provisions: Approximately 2.5 miles from McDonalds and Burger King on South National Ave.; nearby parks: Springfield Lake and the Nature Center.

City Utilities – John Twitty Energy Center (JTEC)

Mission: City Utilities of Springfield, Missouri, is a municipal utility governed by the Board of Public Utilities. City Utilities is engaged in the production and distribution of electricity, the distribution of natural gas, the treatment and distribution of water, telecommunication services, and public transportation for the City of Springfield and the surrounding area. City Utilities and its employees recognize the critical role of education in the community and strive to provide students and teachers with opportunities to enrich and advance their learning experiences. With approximately 1,000 people of diverse backgrounds, interests and skills, CU's employees take pride in answering the call when community needs must be met. That is why we are proud to provide the following information to help you, the educator, in making the connections between the classroom, community, environment and business.

Location: JTEC is located at the intersection of Farm Roads 115 and 164 in Greene County Missouri. JTEC comprises of generating units Southwest I & II, with a combined capacity of 500 Megawatts of power. A map of the site can be faxed on request.

Contact Information: Bryan Feemster, ph. 417.831.8853, fax 417.831.8861
Bryan.Feemster@cityutilities.net.

Availability: 8:00 AM to 4:00 PM, Monday thru Friday. (Best to schedule 1-2 weeks ahead).

Programs: Curriculum connections: Physical Science, sources of energy, effects of science and technology, impact science has on careers. Staffing is not available to provide "In school" presentations. We offer General (45 minute to 1 hour) and In Depth (1 ½ hours) tours. They include an overview of how electrical power is generated using coal and natural gas. The balance of time is spent in small groups touring our station.

Age/Grade Level: Tours are limited to 5th grade and above.

Group Size: 5 to 50 people

Student/Adult Ratio: At least one adult per 10 attendees is required. A list of all people attending is required upon arrival from the tour leader.

Fees: No Fee

Lunch Provisions: Wilson's Creek National Battlefield is 4 miles, Springfield City limits is 3 ½ miles, Republic is 5 miles. Springfield Park Board's Ewing and Nathaniel Greene parks are both approximately 5 miles from the Station.

City Utilities – Renewable Energy Project

Mission: City Utilities of Springfield, Missouri, is a municipal utility governed by the Board of Public Utilities. City Utilities is engaged in the production and distribution of electricity, the distribution of natural gas, the treatment and distribution of water, telecommunication services, and public transportation for the City of Springfield and the surrounding area. City Utilities and its employees recognize the critical role of education in the community and strive to provide students and teachers with opportunities to enrich and advance their learning experiences. With approximately 1,000 people of diverse backgrounds, interests and skills, CU's employees take pride in answering the call when community needs must be met. That is why we are proud to provide the following information to help you, the educator, in making the connections between the classroom, community, environment and business.

Location: CU TecHouse, 2655 S. Blackman Rd. The Renewable Energy Project includes a 10 kilowatt wind turbine and two 2.2 kilowatt photovoltaic arrays.

Contact Information: Cara Shaefer, 831-8348, Cara.Shaefer@cityutilities.net

Availability: 8:00 AM to 5:00 PM, Monday through Friday. Best to schedule 2-3 weeks ahead. Special arrangements may be made for evening tours.

Programs: Curriculum connections: Physical Science, effects of science and technology, renewable sources of energy.

Age/Grade Level: Third grade level and higher.

Group Size: 1 – 15 Indoors; 1 – 50 Outdoors.

Student/Adult Ratio: Age 18 or under, must have one parent or teacher per 10 students.

Fees: No Fee

Lunch Provisions: Generally located east of 65 Highway, between Battlefield Rd. and Sunshine Ave. – many opportunities available.

City Utilities - Speakers Bureau

Mission: City Utilities of Springfield, Missouri, is a municipal utility governed by the Board of Public Utilities. City Utilities is engaged in the production and distribution of electricity, the distribution of natural gas, the treatment and distribution of water, telecommunication services, and public transportation for the City of Springfield and the surrounding area. City Utilities and its employees recognize the critical role of education in the community and strive to provide students and teachers with opportunities to enrich and advance their learning experiences. With approximately 1,000 people of diverse backgrounds, interests and skills, CU's employees take pride in answering the call when community needs must be met. That is why we are proud to provide the following information to help you, the educator, in making the connections between the classroom, community, environment and business.

Contact Information: Call our Speakers Bureau 831-8433 during regular business hours, 8 a.m. to 5 p.m., Monday through Friday, at least two weeks in advance.

Programs: CU employees are available to speak to Kindergarten through twelfth grade classrooms, and collegiate level classes, on a variety of subjects. Tell us your topic of interest, the size and age of the audience, date, time and location. Possible topics:

- Careers in the Utility Industry
- Customer Service Issues
- Economic Development
- Electric Generation
- Electric Transmission and Distribution
- Electrical Safety
- Energy Management & Conservation
- Environmental Issues
- Financial/Budget Topics
- Industry Changes – How they Affect City Utilities and the Community
- Infrared Thermography
- Long Range/Strategic Planning
- Marketing and Communications
- Missouri Sunshine Law
- Natural Gas Distribution
- Natural Gas Measurement and Issues
- Public Transportation
- Reliability of the U.S. Electric System
- Renewable Energy
- Risk Management and Insurance
- Telecommunication Services
- Tree Management
- Utility Security
- Water Quality
- Water Supply and Treatment

If your area of interest is not specifically named, please ask about it and we will do our best to accommodate you.

Computer Recycling Center

Mission: The Mission of the Computer Recycling Center is to reduce the amount of e-waste entering our landfills.

Location: 1434 N. National, Springfield

Contact Information: Luke Westerman, 417-866-2588, www.computerrecyclingcenter.org

Availability: Monday - Friday from 10:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m., by reservation

Programs: Tours of the Computer Recycling Center are available. Activities include step-by-step instruction of the procedure of disassembling personal computers and various electronic components.

Age/Grade Level: We welcome groups of 2nd-graders and older.

Group Size: Flexible

Student/Adult ratio: Because of the potential liability concerns, heavy equipment, etc., we request an adult/student ratio of one adult per 10 students. We have one person, in addition to the presenter, available to accompany the tour group.

Fees: There is no charge for the tours.

Lunch Provisions: The Computer Recycling Center is located within 1 mile of several fast food facilities and Silver Springs Park.

Dickerson Park Zoo

Mission: Dickerson Park Zoo connects people with animals to create adventures that encourage discovery and inspire conservation action.

Location: 1401 W. Norton Road, Springfield (Located northeast of the intersection of I-44 and Kansas Expressway/MO Hwy 13; take Exit 77 on I-44.)

Contact Information: Pam Price, Conservation Education Director pprice@dickersonparkzoo.org
Phone: (417) 833-1570 Fax: (417)833-4459 Website: www.dickersonparkzoo.org
Mailing address: 3043 N. Fort Ave., Springfield, MO 65803

Availability: 9 am to 5 pm, April-September; 10 am to 4 pm, October-March weather permitting

Programs: A number of on-site and outreach education programs are available for a nominal fee. Programs typically range from 20-40 minutes. Live animals and biofacts are included for an up-close and hands-on experience. Child care facilities and Pre-K Animal Encounter programs are scheduled from September through May. Customized programs can be arranged with sufficient lead time. The zoo collaborates with other agencies/educational resources to provide specialized conservation education programs.

Age/Grade Level: Groups of all ages are welcome. Programs align with the Missouri grade/course level expectations.

Group Size: Groups of any size can be accommodated. Larger groups may be divided.

Student/Adult Ratio: One adult supervisor for each 10 children is requested.

Fees: Adults and Teenagers\$8
Children 3-12.....\$5
Seniors (age 60 and older).....\$5 (group discount does not apply)
Age 2 and youngerFree

Groups with 15 or more paying adult or child admission receive discounted admission of \$5 for adults and teenagers and \$3 for children ages 3-12. Children on free or reduced lunch program in Greene County schools receive free admission when attending with their school/class. Please note admission fees and hours are subject to change.

Notes: Groups are encouraged to contact the Dickerson Park Zoo Conservation Education Department when planning a field trip. Frequently asked questions, information to expedite your admission and scavenger hunts can be accessed on our website, www.dickersonparkzoo.org. Mini-classes and behind-the-scenes experiences can be scheduled to enhance the learning experience for your group.

The Safari Trading Company gift shop is open year-round during regular admission gate hours. Animal feed is available at the Outback Corral petting zoo for 50¢. Feed machines are also located at two lakes to feed waterfowl and fish. The giraffe viewing/feeding deck is open when an attendant is present. Feed can be purchased for giraffes during the designated feeding times (\$2 per package). The deck is open daily 10 a.m.-4 p.m., April-Sept., and 11 a.m.-3 p.m. on weekends in March and October, weather permitting. The deck and giraffe feeding are closed for the season November-February. There is also a miniature train ride around Dickerson Lake (seasonal operation). Tickets are \$2.

Lunch: Groups can bring sack lunches and eat in the playground park adjacent to the zoo. A covered pavilion with picnic tables is located in the playground park; for a nominal fee, the pavilion can be reserved by calling the zoo office at (417)833-1570. The zoo's Bush Country Café offers hamburgers, hot dogs, pizza, chicken strips, soft drinks, snacks and ice cream.

Discovery Center of Springfield

Mission: Discovery Center of Springfield is a hands-on museum that inspires people to love learning about the world and our place in it. The museum includes permanent and traveling exhibits, hands-on activities, innovative programs, summer workshops, and special events that meet the Missouri Science and Social Science Grade Level Expectations. Exhibits and programs provide an integrated learning experience in the areas of science, health, technology, history, art and culture. Discovery Center of Springfield serves as a resource for teachers and parents, consistently drawing visitors from a 2-3 hour radius across the Ozarks region.

Location: 438 St. Louis Street, Springfield, Missouri.

Contact: Laurie Duncan, Education Director, lduncan@discoverycenter.org
Phone: 417-862-9910, x701. Fax: 862-6898. <http://www.discoverycenter.org>

Availability: Group Reservations at the Center are available Tuesday – Thurs. 9-5, Friday and Saturday 9-6, and Sunday 1-5. Outreach, Distance Learning, and Workshop opportunities are also available.

Programs: ScienceWorks (biology, chemistry, physics, and earth science), BodyWorks (a series of human biology programs) WorldWise (geography and culture) and Cruse Charitable Trust ChromoZone (cell biology, DNA, and biotechnology). Summer Workshops, Girl Scout/Boy Scout programs, and other family learning opportunities are also available on a variety of topics.

Age/Grade Level: Programs are available for ages 4 through 12th grade; all ages are encouraged to visit the Center, interact with our exhibits and participate in special events.

Group Size: Pre-registration is needed; a minimum of 12 paying guests is required for the group discount.

Student/Adult Ratio: Chaperones are required on a 1 to 5 ratio of adults to children.

Fees: \$5.00 and up group admission depending on the Field Trip package chosen; minimum 7 day pre-registration is required. Group rate of \$6 per person will be charged to trips with less than 7 day advance registration. Limited numbers of scholarships are available to children qualifying under the Free Lunch program.

Notes: For best choice of field trip date/time and program options, reservations should be made early. April and May tend to be very busy!

Lunch: We are located in downtown Springfield within walking distance of Jordan Valley Park and easy access to several fast-food restaurants and Phelps Grove Park. A lunch room is available to rent for an additional fee, and should be scheduled at the same time as field trip reservation.

Fantastic Caverns

Mission: Caves are fragile environments. A moment's carelessness could destroy the irreplaceable formations or upset the delicate ecosystem. Our mission is to protect the cave while also providing visitors a glimpse into the fascinating and extraordinary subterranean world. By introducing students to the geology, biology and history of caves, we hope they will gain not only an appreciation of caves but a realization that caves are important natural features that are sensitive to changes in the environment. Through education we seek to impart the message that stewardship of the earth is everyone's responsibility.

Location: 4872 North Farm Road 125 Springfield, MO 65803 (1.5 miles north of Springfield off of I-44 and MO 13, then west on Fantastic Caverns Road for 3 miles. Take Exit 77 off of I-44)

Contact Information: Phone: 417-833-2010 Fax: 417-833-2042
<http://www.fantasticcaverns.com>
khansen@fantasticcaverns.com

Availability: Open 8:00 till dusk every day except Thanksgiving, Christmas Eve and Christmas Day. Call or access the web site for exact times.

Programs: Children's programs include our *Student Field Trips*, a 55-minute all-riding tour of the cave, offered all year on the hour and half hour. *The Adventure Tour* is a 55-minute all-riding tour of the cave *plus* 30 minutes of activities at our underground classroom. *The Adventure Tour* is offered January-March at 10:00 AM and 12:00 noon. *Summer Discovery* is a 55-minute all-riding cave tour *plus* 30 minutes activities at the Outdoor Classroom. *Summer Discovery* is offered June 1-August 31 at 10:00 AM and 12:00 noon.

Age/Grade Level: All ages

Group Size: A minimum of 20 paying guests is required for group rates. Maximum group size is 60. If your group is larger, contact us to see if we can accommodate you with multiple departures.

Student/Adult Ratio: We prefer that a teacher/adult accompany each tour group.

Fees: Visit our web site for group rates. Teachers and bus drivers are complimentary. Reservations are required.

Notes: Tours of the cave are conducted by jeep-drawn trams which are accessible to most wheelchairs. Fantastic Caverns has a gift shop, offering a variety of rocks and minerals and souvenirs. There is also a hiking trail on the property.

Lunch: Groups can bring sack lunches and eat outside at our picnic tables. During January-March we have tables inside where the students can eat a sack lunch. Ritter Springs, a Springfield city park, is a mile from Fantastic Caverns and has picnic facilities. Several fast-food restaurants are located five miles away.

Finley Valley Serpentarium

Mission: We are striving to educate the public about reptiles and their importance in nature. We are also involved in captive husbandry and propagation to take the pressure off wild populations. We encourage everyone with an interest in herpetology, the study of reptiles and amphibians, to visit with us.

Location: 2699 Riverdale Road, Ozark, Missouri

Contact information: Phone 417-581-3093; 417-848-9201 (cell.)

Availability: Open Monday through Friday 11 a.m. to 1:30 p.m., Saturday noon until 6:00 p.m., or by appointment. Always best to call ahead. Closed Sunday.

Programs: We invite the individual, or group field trips to our facilities, for guided tours. Call us for more information on what to expect.

Age/grade level: We can customize tours for any age level.

Group size: We invite any size groups, however we only allow 15 children per tour, accompanied by two adults.

Student/adult ratio: Two adults are required per 15 children for each tour. Any age group is welcome.

Fees: \$5.00 per individual; groups of 15 or more are discounted.

Notes: All groups of reptiles are represented at our facility, including native species. We also have a retail side and sell captive-born reptiles and supplies. If you are interested in reptiles, or your group is studying them, we are the facility to come to for any questions you may have. Reptiles are our specialty.

Lunch provisions: Food and drink are not allowed but there are several restaurants in the Ozark area.

Habitat for Humanity of Springfield, Missouri

Legacy Trails Subdivision

Mission: The mission of Habitat for Humanity of Springfield is to eliminate substandard housing in Greene County, Missouri. Legacy Trails Phase 1 has 24 homes and Phase 2 started in 2012 with six homes built by June. The community is the region's first residential Low Impact Development (LID). LID is an ecologically friendly approach to site development and storm water management that aims to mitigate development impacts to land, water, and air. There is also a house on site certified at the Platinum level in the LEED for Homes system; the house was designed and built by students and faculty at the Drury School of Architecture.

Location: 3805 N. Farm Road 143, Springfield, MO 65803, at the junction with West Volunteer Way. (Located north of the intersection of I-44 and Kansas Expressway/MO Hwy 13; take Exit 77 on I-44.) The site is one mile north of Norton Road: turn north from Norton Road onto Kansas Avenue (just a few car lengths east of Kansas Expressway), which becomes FR 143 outside the Springfield city limit.

Contact Information: Nancy Williams, Director of Family Services,
nancywilliams@habitatspringfieldmo.org
Phone: 417-829-4001; Fax: 417-829-4003 Website: <http://www.habitatspringfieldmo.org>

Availability: Monday through Friday 8:30 a.m. until 3:30 p.m., by reservation, weather permitting

Programs: On-site walking tours of Legacy Trails to view LID landscape design practices in the development's first phase. Roadside swales and bioretention areas planted with native grasses, wildflowers, shrubs and trees allow easy access and up-close viewing of indigenous plant material. Students will learn about low impact development and ways they too can reduce storm water runoff, improve water quality, and increase wildlife habitat in their own yards and neighborhoods.

Age/Grade Level: All ages and grade levels.

Group Size: Any size with appropriate supervision.

Student/Adult Ratio: Teacher's discretion.

Fees: None, although donations to Habitat for Humanity of Springfield, Missouri are welcome.

Notes: Students age 14 and older may serve as Landscape Volunteers with parent's permission and supervision. For insurance reasons, only those 16 years and older may volunteer at a Construction Site or Habitat ReStore. Only those volunteers 18 years and older may use power tools and participate in activities considered hazardous.

Lunch Provisions: Many fast food and casual dining options are conveniently located close-by on North Kansas Expressway (including McAlister's Deli, Panera Bread, Braum's, IHOP, Jimmy John's, McDonald's, Golden Corral, Ci-Ci's Pizza).

Habitat for Humanity of Springfield, Missouri The ReStore

Mission: The primary purpose of the Habitat for Humanity ReStore is to raise funds to support Habitat Springfield's mission to eliminate substandard housing in Greene County, Missouri.

Location: 2410 South Scenic Avenue, Springfield, MO 65807. Just south of the entrance to Nathanael Greene Park, and across the street from the entrance to Horton Smith Golf Course.

Contact Information: Tommy Hawkins, Volunteer Coordinator,
tommyhawkins@habitatspringfieldmo.org
Phone: 417-829-4001; Fax: 417-829-4003 Website: <http://www.habitatspringfieldmo.org>

Availability: Monday through Friday 8:30 a.m. until 3:30 p.m., by reservation, weather permitting

Programs: On-site tours of the Habitat ReStore, which sells new and used building supplies, appliances, and furniture to the public to raise funds for Habitat home building in Greene County. The low cost of materials also facilitates low-cost home repairs and improvement within Springfield low-income population. The store also facilitates the reuse and recycling of materials, thus lessening the amount of usable materials that are discarded. A recycling center for paper, plastic, and metals opened to the public in April 2012. Tour includes an overview of Habitat's mission and history.

Age/Grade Level: All ages and grade levels.

Group Size: Any size with appropriate supervision.

Student/Adult Ratio: Teacher's discretion.

Fees: None, although donations to Habitat for Humanity of Springfield, Missouri are welcome.

Notes: For insurance reasons, only those 16 years and older can volunteer at the ReStore or the Habitat Construction Site. Only those volunteers 18 years and older may use power tools and participate in activities considered hazardous. Students age 14 and older may serve as Habitat Landscape Volunteers with parent's permission and supervision.

Lunch Provisions: Fast food and casual dining options are conveniently located nearby on Battlefield and Sunshine (including McAlister's Deli, Dominos Pizza, Subway, Quiznos Subs, KFC, Pizza Hut, Pizza Inn, McDonalds).

The History Museum for Springfield-Greene County

Mission: To facilitate and encourage the use of history to define local identity within the framework of larger historical texts. To accomplish this objective the Museum shall endeavor to document the history of Springfield and Greene County and its people through the collection, preservation, exhibition, and interpretation of historic objects and information.

Location: 830 Boonville Ave., Springfield, MO 65802

Contact Information:

Interim Executive Director- David Eslick- deslick@springfieldmo.gov

Joan Hampton-Porter, Curator- jporter@springfieldmo.gov

Fax: (417) 864-2019

www.springfieldhistorymuseum.org

Availability: Tours are available Tuesday through Friday AND the second Saturday of each month, 10:30 a.m.-4:30 p.m. If other times are necessary, they must be scheduled at least three weeks in advance. All guided tours must be scheduled at least two weeks in advance. The Museum offers outreach opportunities which can be scheduled at a time convenient to the scheduling organization. Two weeks advanced booking is required.

Programs: The Education Department offers guided tours of the Museum's permanent and temporary exhibits. Outreach programs include:

- Traveling Trunks: Local Native American History, Pioneer Days, The Civil War, Turn of the Century, World War II, Lewis and Clark, and History of Greene County.
- Video and slide presentations: A Tour of 1890-1920 Springfield, Women Working in the Community, Crossroads at the Spring, History of Springfield, Then and Now (locations in Greene County past and present).
- Customized speakers bureau presentations of requested topics

Age/Grade Level: All ages.

Group Size: The Museum can accommodate a group of up to forty for a guided tour.

Student/Adult Ratio: The scheduling organization should provide one adult chaperone per ten children on the tour.

Notes: The History Museum will gladly tie in any tour or outreach presentation with curriculum testing. Many MAP and Show-Me Standards in social studies can be addressed during tours and presentations.

Fees: \$1.00 per person for guided Museum tours, \$1.00 per person for presentations, \$1.00 per person for Trunks delivered with Museum personnel giving Program, \$20.00 for Trunk delivered with no supervision by Museum personnel.

Lunch Provisions: Subway Sandwich Shop at 713 N. Benton is about two blocks from the Museum. Jordan Valley is the closest park. There have been groups that have made arrangements to eat their lunch on the Court House lawn.

James River Basin Partnership

Mission: Working to protect and improve the water quality in our springs, streams, rivers, and lakes.

Location: Outreach only

Contact Information: Kellie Herman
James River Basin Partnership
901 S. National, Monroe Hall
Springfield, MO 65897

Phone –Joe Pitts (Director) 417-836-8878
Kellie Herman (Education) 417-836-3756
Fax 417-836-8879
Email - jamesriverbasin@gmail.com
www.jamesriverbasin.com

Availability: by appointment

Programs: Water Conservation, Pollution Solutions, What is a Watershed

Age/Grade Level: All levels

Group Size: 5-30 are easily accommodated

Student/Adult Ratio: 1 adult per 15 students

Fees: There are no costs associated with outreach programs.

Notes: We are willing to repeat the same program all day to small groups at the given location. We can tie our presentation in with curriculum or testing. Most presentations are customized to the audience or needs of the teacher. We will gladly participate with other groups or tour stops.

The Leadership Ranch

Mission: The Leadership Ranch provides interactive, experiential games and activities built in a wooded setting. Commonly referred to as a Ropes Course or Challenge Course. These games teach groups how to work together effectively. There are low and high activities, farm animals, and many active science projects designed to demonstrate science MIGS. A rich natural habitat supports a myriad of wildlife.

Location: 9379 W. Farm Rd. 168, Republic, MO 65738 Located one mile north of Republic.

Contact: Tim Eberle, Director Teberle9@aol.com, 417-732-6594, Fax: 417-732-9264

Availability: Daylight hours, 7 days a week. Please call at least one day in advance to schedule your visit.

Programs: Programs are customized to meet specific needs and goals of the group. We also work in conjunction with classroom visits.

Age/Grade Level: Any Age.

Group Size: Group sizes up to 200.

Fees: Prices are \$5 per hour per person. Most groups come from 3 to 6 hours. A full day of 6 hours caps at \$25. A facilitator is provided for each 8-12 students.

Lunch: Picnic area available.

Missouri Department of Conservation

Mission: To protect and manage the fish, forest, and wildlife resources of the state; to serve the public and facilitate their participation in resource management activities; and to provide opportunity for all citizens to use, enjoy, and learn about fish, forest, and wildlife resources

Location: 2630 North Mayfair Ave, Springfield 65803

Contact Information: Jay Barber, Conservation Education Consultant, 417-895-6881 ext. 1643
Jay.Barber@mdc.mo.gov

Availability: Call to set up workshop for daytime, evenings, or weekends

Programs: Train the trainer. I offer tailor-made conservation-related workshops to meet the group's educational objectives. I offer training in our newly developed Discover Nature Schools program which features school grants and field trip support. I also offer workshops in Projects WET, WILD, and Learning Tree as well as the Leopold Project. My work district comprises a 9-county area that includes: Hickory, Polk, Dallas, Laclede, Webster, Greene, Christian, Stone, and Taney.

Age/Grade Level: K-Adult

Group Size: Minimum of 10 for an educator workshop. Will do some guest speaker programs if school is associated with the Discover Nature Schools program.

Student/Adult Ratio: One educator per class of students

Fees: None, except for the Projects (WET and WILD = \$20.00; Project Learning Tree = \$15.00 and Leopold Project = \$25.00)



Missouri Department of Conservation Springfield Conservation Nature Center

Mission: To protect and manage the fish, forest, and wildlife resources of the state; to serve the public and facilitate their participation in resource management activities; and to provide opportunity for all citizens to use, enjoy, and learn about fish, forest, and wildlife resources.

Location: 4601 S. Nature Center Way, Springfield, 65804. Located in southeast Springfield near the intersection of US-65 and US-60 and no more than a 25-minute drive from any place in town.

Contact Info: Phone: 417/888-4237, Fax: 417/888-4241, E-mail: Rudy.Martinez@mdc.mo.gov

Availability: Guided programs are available Tuesday-Friday, 9am-5pm, year round. Programs must be scheduled a minimum of two weeks in advance and registration for the next calendar year begins on September 1. General public programs and special events are offered during evenings and on weekends. A bimonthly newsletter, *Nature Connections In Southwest Missouri*, is available. Sign up online at mdc.mo.gov/node/287

School and Group Programs: Programs typically include an indoor presentation combined with a guided trail hike. Groups will also be allotted time to tour through the exhibit area on their own. All standard programs are designed to fulfill selected Grade Level Expectations for grades K-12. The nature center features 80 acres of forests, fields, and wetlands and 3 miles of hiking trails along with a building facility featuring hands-on exhibits, classrooms, an auditorium, and a gift shop.

Age/Grade Level: Programs are available for all ages and grade levels.

Group Size: While groups of no more than two classrooms are preferred, larger groups are accepted based on availability of staff and resources.

Student/Adult Ratio: One adult chaperone per ten children is **required**; however, more adults, especially with young children, are recommended.

Fees: No fees are charged. Bus transportation funding may be available for schools enrolled in the Discover Nature Schools curriculum. Check the website at mdc.mo.gov for details. Bus parking is provided.

Notes: A Teacher's and Leader's Guide is available upon request and can be obtained by calling the nature center at 888-4237.

Lunch Provisions: Food is not allowed in the building; however, a covered pavilion with a drinking fountain, soda machine, and restrooms is available for sack lunches. Groups may also picnic at nearby Living Memorial Park or visit nearby fast food facilities.

General Hours of Operation: Check the website mdc.mo.gov/node/287 for building and area hours. Building is always closed on Mondays and some major holidays.

Missouri Institute of Natural Science

Mission: The Museum and Institute are located on the Riverbluff Cave site, the oldest Ice Age fossil cave in North America. It is a continuing source of rich fossil finds of mammoths and other Ice Age animals. Learn about the geology of the area and life forms native to our region and the world at that time.

Location: 2327 W. Farm Road 190, Springfield MO 65810. (We are exactly 2 miles south of the intersection of Cox Rd. and Republic Rd. in Springfield.) Ample bus parking.

Contact Information: Please call the museum directly at 417.883.0594 to schedule a field trip. Non time-sensitive requests for general info can be emailed to info@monatsci.com. We also have 3,000+ members on our Facebook page under *Missouri Institute of Natural Science*.

Availability: The Museum is generally open M-F 8:30-4:30 and most Saturdays 10-2. Please call ahead to check hours. Field trips can be scheduled for any time, evenings or weekends included.

Programs:

Field Trips Include: A slide presentation on Riverbluff Cave and the Ice-Age fossils found inside, unlimited time in the museum and, weather permitting, an escorted trip up the hill to collect fossils that students can keep. We provide a baggie and a fossil identification card. In the event of inclement weather, we can do a simulated dig for real fossils in boxes of sand indoors (generally more suitable for younger children). We can also demo ongoing fossil preparation on our 38 million year-old basilosaurus and other fossils. Additional presentation topics include (but are not limited to): A general presentation on karst topography and cave formation, cave life, geology in general, geology specific to Greene County, rocks and mineral composition, meteorites, Mississippian Mound-Building Civilizations... let us know what you need! We can tailor the field trip to meet your time constraints. Most often groups request 2 hour time periods, but we can do longer and shorter field trips.

Age/Grade Level: Groups of all ages are welcome. Programs can be requested which align with the Missouri grade/course level expectations.

Group Size: We can comfortably accommodate 75 students at a time. We may divide them into groups and rotate them through the presentation, the museum, and fossil collecting on the hill.

Student/Adult Ratio: Chaperones are helpful during the fossil collecting activity of our field trips and are encouraged. The Museum requires one adult for every 10 students. Chaperones must remain with the students at all times. During field trips teachers and parents are considered chaperones.

Fees: Field trips are \$5 per student, with no cost for teachers/chaperones.

Notes: 1) Riverbluff Cave itself is not open to the public, however all fossils from the cave are on display in the museum. 2) Our gift shop stocks a variety of rocks, minerals, fossils, magnets etc. with prices starting at 25 cents. Please advise interested students to bring cash as we currently do not accept credit cards.

Lunch Provisions: Students may bring a sack lunch to enjoy under the shade trees. There are also a variety of fast-food restaurants on Republic Road just inside the Springfield city limits.

Missouri Master Naturalists

Mission: The Missouri Master Naturalist Program is a training/service program co-sponsored by the University of Missouri Extension and Missouri Department of Conservation. Master Naturalists complete 40 hours of classroom/field initial training and then complete 40 hours of community service and eight hours of advanced training each year to remain certified in the program.

The Springfield/Greene County chapter has 46 active members

Contact Information:

Jay Barber
Missouri Department of Conservation
2630 North Mayfair
Springfield, MO 65803
Phone: 417-895-6881, Ext. 269
Fax: 417-895-6910

or Patrick Byers
University of Missouri Extension
2400 S. Scenic Avenue
Springfield, MO 65807
Phone: 417-881-8909
Fax: 417-881-8058

Web page: www.monaturalist.org

Availability: Master Naturalists are available as volunteers for a variety of environmental/conservation projects.

Programs: Knowledgeable volunteers for hands-on projects such as trail building, bird counts, stream monitoring/testing, native/threatened plant counts/rescues, as well as presentations and outdoor workshops on nature-related topics are available.

Age/Grade Level: Educational/hands-on assistance is available to all age/grade levels.

Group Size: Any size

Student/Adult Ratio: Varies per specific activity

Fees: Generally, none, although there may be requests for expense reimbursement, depending on the specific activity

Missouri Project WET
Water Education for Teachers
Sponsored by MSU, City of Springfield, Greene County
and Watershed Committee of the Ozarks

Mission of Organization: To facilitate and promote awareness, appreciation, knowledge and stewardship of water resources through the development and dissemination of classroom-ready teaching aids.

Location: Missouri State University—King Street Annex, Room 206

Contact Information:

Erica Cox
Missouri State University
Department of Biology
901 S. National
Springfield, MO 65897
417-836-4337
Fax: 417-836-8886
EricaCox@MissouriState.edu

Availability: Call or e-mail to set up a workshop

Programs:

Periodic 6-hour Project WET workshops, offered throughout the state and led by trained facilitators. Additionally, other Project WET-sponsored workshops such as Healthy Water, Healthy People and Discover a Watershed are available. These programs offer supplemental curriculum materials for teachers and other educators.

In the Springfield-Greene County area, outreach and education programs offered to students and teachers about storm water and water conservation topics. Resources, curriculum materials and assistance in incorporating water education into existing curriculum provided.

Age/Grade Level: Grades K-12

Group Size: Teacher workshops—a minimum of 10; student presentations—limit of 30 at one time, but could do the same presentation several times.

Student/Adult ratio: 1 adult for every 15 students or one teacher per classroom—could vary, depending upon activity.

Fees: \$25 per person for a Project WET workshop—all other workshops or presentations at minimal or no cost.

Nathan Boone Homestead State Historic Site

Mission: Nathan Boone Homestead State Historic Site preserves the last home and grave of Nathan Boone. Though best known as the youngest son of Daniel Boone, Nathan Boone played a key role in the exploration and settlement of Missouri and the American West. The historic site interprets Boone's life, the lives of those around him, and the story of frontier America.

Location: 1.5 miles north of Ash Grove, Missouri on Highway V

Contact: Dakota Russell, Interpretive Resource Specialist

Phone: 417-751-3266. Fax: 417-751-3270. E-mail: dakota.russell@dnr.mo.gov

<http://mostateparks.com/park/nathan-boone-homestead-state-historic-site>

Availability: From November through March, the historic site is open Friday and Saturday from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. and Sunday from 1 p.m. to 4 p.m. Guided tours are available. The site is closed Monday through Thursday. From April through October, the historic site is open Wednesday through Saturday from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. and on Sunday from 1 p.m. to 4 p.m. Guided tours are available. The site is closed on Mondays and Tuesdays. Groups may arrange a tour anytime during public hours. Outreach programs are also available.

Programs: The historic site offers a guided tour, lasting approximately 1 hour.

Age/Grade Level: The historic site tour can be tailored for all ages and grade levels.

Group Size: A minimum of 15 people is required for the group tour rate. Maximum group size for a single program is 50 people.

Student/Adult Ratio: 1 adult per every 10 students is encouraged.

Fees: For pre-registered groups of 15 or more, rates are as follows: children under 6 are free, ages 6-12 are \$1.50, and those over 12 are \$3.00. Outreach programs are free of charge within a 50-mile radius of the site.

Notes: Group tours must be confirmed at least two weeks in advance to qualify for the group rate.

Lunch: Picnic tables are available on-site.

Ozark Greenways, Inc.

Mission: A citizens group dedicated to preserving and enhancing the Ozarks' natural heritage through the creation of linear parks for public use.

Location: Greenway trails are located at various areas throughout the community - See map in brochure or on our website (www.ozarkgreenways.org) for specific directions.

Contact Information:

Lori Tack, Program Coordinator
Ozark Greenways, P.O. Box 50733, Springfield, MO 65805
(417) 864-2015 phone (417) 864-1497 fax
email: lori@ozarkgreenways.org

Availability: Year-round, sunrise to sunset.

Programs:

- 1) Presentations to classes about greenways
- 2) Self-guided field trips to any of the trails
- 3) Greenway related vocabulary words and word-search available
- 4) Volunteer work projects to be arranged including tree planting, tree care, learning about the importance of trees in our environment
- 5) Stream Team water quality monitoring and cleanup along South Creek

Age/Grade Levels: Any age or grade.

Group Size: Any size (extra large groups may need to be split into smaller groups).

Student/Adult Ratio: Supervision must be provided by the school (with teachers and/or parents); ratio is up to the teachers.

Fees: No charge, but membership donations to Ozark Greenways are encouraged.

Roaring River State Park

Mission: The mission of the Roaring River State Park's interpretative program is to interpret for all participants, using a variety of innovative methods, the overall theme that water is the force that created and continues to modify the geology, biology, and anthropology of Roaring River Valley. Facilitate enjoyable and safe recreational learning experience that will inspire positive behavior toward natural and cultural resources.

Location:

12716 FR 2239

Cassville, MO 65625

7 miles southeast of Cassville, MO on Highway 112

Contact Information: Tim Smith, Interpretive Resource Coordinator

Phone: 417-847-3742 Fax: 417-847-1802 Email: Tim.Smith@dnr.mo.gov

Availability: Nature Center hours

March 1 through the Tuesday before Memorial Day

9 a.m. - 5 p.m. Wednesday through Sunday; Closed Monday and Tuesday

Wednesday before Memorial Day through the Sunday after Labor Day

9 a.m. - 5 p.m. daily

Monday after Labor Day through Oct. 31

9 a.m. - 5 p.m. Wednesday through Sunday; Closed Monday and Tuesday

Programs:

Hatchery Tour

Nature Center

Deer Leap Hike

Other programs on request

Age/Grade Level: The tours and programs can be tailored for all ages and grade levels.

Group Size: Maximum group size for a single program is 50 people.

Student/Adult Ratio: Teacher's discretion.

Fees: None

Notes: Please call to book your group.

Lunch Provisions: Picnic tables and two covered shelters are available on-site.

Springfield Art Museum

Mission: The Springfield Art Museum is dedicated to enhancing education and documenting the cultural heritage of the people of southwest Missouri, through the collection, preservation and exhibition of art objects. The Springfield Art Museum is the city's oldest cultural institution. Throughout the year, the Museum schedules a variety of temporary exhibitions of traditional, modern, and contemporary art. Early summer marks the opening of Watercolor U.S.A., a national competitive exhibition that has been sponsored annually by the Museum since 1962. Selections from the Museum's Permanent Collections can be viewed throughout the year and might range from pre-Columbian artifacts to Renaissance etchings to paintings created by a host of important American artists.

Location: 1111 East Brookside Drive, Springfield (Located west of National Avenue between Brookside Drive and Bennett Street on the east side of Phelps Grove Park.)

Contact Information: Telephone: (417) 837-5700 Fax: (417) 837-5704

Availability: Museum hours are 9:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m. Tuesday, Wednesday, Friday and Saturday, 9:00 a.m. - 8:00 p.m. Thursday, and 1:00 - 5:00 p.m. Sunday. Closed Monday and all city and national holidays. Self-guided tours may be scheduled at any time. (Large self-guided groups are encouraged to call ahead.) Guided tours should be scheduled two weeks in advance and can be conducted 9:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m. Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday, and Friday.

Programs: Guided tours are based on the changing exhibits on view at the Museum. View current and future exhibits, class schedules, and other Museum events at <http://www.springfieldmo.gov/egov/art/>

Age/Grade Level: Preschool through adults

Group Size: There is no limit on group size, however large self-guided groups are encouraged to call ahead. Guided tours are on a 1 to 10 ratio.

Student/Adult Ratio: Chaperones are requested on a 1 to 10 ratio of adults to children.

Fees: There is never an admission charge.

Notes: No food, drink, chewing gum, photography, cell phones or tape recorders are allowed in the Museum. No backpacks are allowed in the galleries. We ask that students' personal belongings be left on the bus.

Lunch: There are no lunch facilities in the Museum, however Phelps Grove Park is located adjacent to the grounds.

Springfield-Greene County Health Department

Mission: The Springfield-Greene County Health Department's mission is to help people live longer, healthier and happier lives. Public health affects everyone every minute of every day. Public health is largely a "behind the scenes" kind of operation. We monitor and enforce regulations related to the air we breathe, water we drink, food we eat and sometimes, even the shelter we take. Public health offers medical and laboratory services, immunizations, WIC, animal control services, and communicable disease surveillance. In addition, public health is the repository for birth and death certificates and serves as a resource for citizens, community groups, and businesses through collaboration, technical expertise and educational outreach. *Public health makes life better!*

Location: 227 E Chestnut Expwy, Springfield, MO 65802 (Located between Historic City Hall and the police station).

Contact Information: Rebecca Ray, Health Educator, rray@springfieldmo.gov
Cathy Gaw, Assistant Health Educator, cgaw@springfieldmo.gov
417-874-1297 (Rebecca) 417-864-1667 (Cathy) Fax: 417-864-1099

Availability: Speakers are available upon request most days and often after hours. Tours can be scheduled during the week, Monday – Friday 8 – 5 p. m.

Programs: Public health in our community has a broad reach and programs/ presentations can be designed to address all of the areas which include: Indoor Air Quality, Animal and Rabies Control, Food Safety and Regulation, Immunizations including the need for flu shots, Communicable Diseases, STD/HIV, Blood borne pathogens and emerging pathogens, public health overview, vector control (rats, bugs etc), environmental issues, germs and hand washing, tobacco regulation and use prevention, obesity and other topics as requested.

Age/Grade Level: Programs are designed for all age and grade levels.

Group Size: 5 to 200.

Student/Adult Ratio: For department tours, 1 chaperone is necessary.

Fees: There is no charge for speakers, group visits or the use of the glo-germ box.

Lunch: none

Springfield-Greene County Libraries

Mission: To improve and enrich the lives of our users through information, education and recreation. The Library values the citizens of Greene County and responds to their needs by providing clean and inviting buildings, well-organized and up-to-date collections, friendly professional service and well-trained staff who are committed to the Library vision.

Location: 5 branches in Springfield and 5 branches in the county.

Contact Information: Tours and programs are available by calling each individual branch:

- The Library Center: 882-0714
- The Library Station: 865-1340
- Ash Grove Branch—751-2933
- Brentwood Branch—883-1974
- Fair Grove Branch—759-2637
- Midtown Carnegie Branch—862-0135
- Park Central Branch---831-1342
- Republic Branch—732-7284
- Strafford Branch---736-9233
- Willard Branch—742-4258
- Web: www.thelibrary.org

Availability: As scheduled at each facility.

Programs: Will provide tours of buildings, help with use of Library resources and provide homework assistance.

Age/Grade Level: All ages.

Group Size: Will work with visiting group.

Student/Adult Ratio: Library tour guides are available at each branch. We prefer that a teacher/other adult accompany each tour group.

Fees: No cost

Lunch Provisions:

- The Library Center—many fast food restaurants are located within one mile (on south Campbell). The Mud House is located in The Library Center. Must make prior arrangements for a large group. The closest park is Nathaniel Green on south Scenic.
- The Library Station—Many fast food restaurants are located within one mile on west Kearney. Panera Bread is located in Library Station. Must make prior arrangements for large group.
- Other branches—limited fast food available. Ash Grove, Fair Grove, Republic, Strafford and Willard have nice city parks within a few blocks.

Springfield-Greene County Park Board Botanical Center and Gardens

Mission: The Botanical Center has been established for enhancing people's lives through plant demonstrations and education. The Gardens at the Botanical Center are a resource for leisure, teaching, and public service missions of University of Missouri Extension's Greene County office, Friends of the Garden and other park partners.

Location: Nathanael Greene/ Close Memorial Park; 2400 S. Scenic Ave, Springfield, MO 65807

Contact Information: plongley@springfieldmo.gov; 417-891-1515

Availability: By appointment

Guided Programs:

Directions: Download group request form: http://www.parkboard.org/info/botanical/docs/group_request_form.pdf

Guided Garden Tours: A guide can lead you through the different gardens, botanical collections and attractions. Fee: \$2/pr or \$25/groups under 12 people.

Native Butterfly House - mid-May-September – Discover the lifecycle of the butterfly from egg to larvae to pupae to adult. Learn about the basic needs of wildlife and the specific plants needed by butterflies for food and to raise their young. Contact the Botanical Center 417-891-1515 Fee: \$2/pr or \$25/group size less than 12 people.

Gray-Campbell Farmstead – <http://www.graycampbellfarmstead.org/id3.html>

Life in 1860s, especially for 5th grade! Course offered 6 weeks in fall and spring. Guided programs for other groups are available by appointment. Contact Michelle Atkinson: atkinsonplace@sbcglobal.net or 417-725-4921

Guided Tram Tour: A guide can drive small groups to key garden locations. Fee: \$3/person or \$50/groups minimum charge. Limit 20.

Self-Guided Programs:

Play Trail! –Discover nature by play! Designed to engage rigorous exercise for the body and mind; 5 playgrounds can be found from the butterfly house around Lake Drummond. See plants and nature and follow the activities found at each play pod. Group size: 12 or less. Activity stations include: the butterfly, leaves, trees, pond life and mushrooms. Walking trail approximately 1 mile.

Tree ID – Many trees have been identified and labeled with added information about the plant. Trees are marked by 4' tall paddles. Green labels designate native species, brown labels identify non-native species. A great resource for plant identification projects!

The Mizumoto Japanese Stroll Garden – Fee:\$3/adult; 12 under free. Guides available for an additional \$2/pr. open April-October; closed Tues—Wed.

Host Lions Club History Walk – 28 granite markers commemorating historical American figures.

A scavenger hunt can be downloaded from www.botanicalcenter.org under education or guided tour can be arranged by contacting a Lions Club representative at: 417-833-9879.

South Creek Greenway the Botanical Center is a major trail head for people hiking and biking the 7.5 mile Greenway. Observe wildlife, plantings and different habitats along the creek going both east and west from our central point at Lake Drummond.

Nature Explore@ site – follow the Nature Explore curriculum, Groups can stage various activities, tree cookies and log decomposers, wildlife observations and more at the Kickapoo Edge Prairie, South Creek, Audubon Bird Site and Lake Drummond. A map can be downloaded from: www.botanicalcenter.org under the “education” page.

Special Activities:

Volunteer work projects including tree and flower planting and garden maintenance can be arranged with Friends of the Garden. Contact: Nancy Hopkins at info@friendsofthegarden.org or 417-425-9859.

The Mizumoto Japanese Stroll Garden, The Kickapoo Edge Prairie, Lake Drummond and the South Creek Greenway offer attractive venues for cultural and environmental projects.

Age/ Grade Level: All ages!

Group Size: 25/ guided programs; larger groups will be divided and rotate through different activities. Combined groups, especially home school should be within 2 grades levels.

Fees: Guided education programs are \$2/person or \$25 for groups smaller than 12 people.

Lunch: Picnic tables and pavilions are located throughout the park. Refreshments available in the Botanical Boutique and Marketplace.

Springfield – Greene County Park Board
Outdoor Initiatives' Hands-On Outdoor Adventures,
Education, Experiences, Opportunities, Recreation, & Skills.

Home Of Giboney Cave Outdoor – Underground Classroom
The Most Caves Of All Municipal Park & Recreation Departments In Missouri
Federal Endangered Species / Bat & Sequiota Caves
Endangered Species Missouri Bladderpod

Mission: The Springfield – Greene County Park Board is committed to provide the highest quality of leisure opportunities, to offer programs for relaxation as well as stimulation, and to encourage personal and community enrichment for the citizens of Springfield, Missouri.

Location: The Outdoor Initiatives Office is located in the in Valley Water Mill Park, 2300 – 2400 Block E. Valley Water Mill Road, Springfield, MO.

Contact & Mail Information:

- Melvin Johnson, CPRP, Community Recreation Supervisor – Outdoor Initiatives
(417) 833-8647; mjohnson@springfieldmo.gov
- Kara Warren, Community Recreation Specialist – Outdoor Initiatives
(417) 833-8923; kwarren@springfieldmo.gov

Mailing Address: Outdoor Initiatives, Springfield-Greene County Park Board
1923 N. Weller, Springfield, MO 65803
FAX: (417) 833-8201

Availability: Year-round in general depending upon specific activity:

- Day and Trip Camps are offered in the summer; Family Camps are offered spring thru fall.
- Cave Adventures, Education, & Science are offered year-round, but some wild caves are only accessible in the winter.

Programs: On-site hands-on programs such as utilizing the Giboney Cave Outdoor - Underground Classroom results in the best quality experience. In addition, Staff are available for presentations and programs at your site as well.

- Camping, including: Backpacking, Camping Skills – Clinics, Canoe Camping, Day – Trip Camps, Family & Group Camps, LNT (Leave No Trace), & Trip Camping opportunities available.
- Canoeing & Kayaking: Camping, Clinics, Float Trips, Racing, Small Watercraft Safety, & Water Rescue.
- Cave Adventures, Education, Science & Exploring - Beginner and intermediate hands-on clinics, groups and schools, and public tours.
- Challenge Initiatives - Confidence and Team Building Dynamics.
- Cookery: Historical Dutch Oven, Foil Pack, and Outdoor.
- Day Packing, Historical, & Nature Hikes.
- Environmental Education & Nature Study Hikes.
- Giboney Cave Outdoor – Underground Classroom.
- GPS, Geocaching, & Letter Boxing.
- Kids F.A.C.E. (Kids For A Clean Environment) National Program.
- LNT (“Leave No Trace”), LNT PEAL PROGRAMS, & NMT (“No More Trash”).
- Outdoor Hazards & Safety.
- Outdoor Adventure Travel, ie: Bennett Springs State Park (Canoeing & Front Country Day Packing), Ha Ha Tonka State Park (Caving, Day Packing, & Historical), Prairie State Park (Bison, Elk, Prairie Wildflowers).
- Photography: Beginners, Cave, and Nature Photography.
- Rock Hounding, Fossils, & Native American Artifacts.
- Stream Study / Stream Team Approach.
- Tree & Plant Identification.

Age/Grade Level: Programs are available for ages 3 through Adults.

Group Size: Maximum group size varies depending on program.

Student/Adult Ratio:

- ☐ One adult supervisor for each 5 youth under the age of 6.
- ☐ One adult supervisor for each 10 youth ages 6-11.
- ☐ One adult supervisor for each 12-15 teenagers.

Fees: Fees range from \$3 to \$150 / participant depending upon specific program; IE: Cave Sessions range from \$3 to \$35 minimum; Day Camps from \$80 to \$320; Trip Camps from \$55 to \$100.

Springfield-Greene County Park Board Rutledge-Wilson Farm Community Park

Mission: The Springfield-Greene County Park Board is committed to provide the highest quality of leisure opportunities, to offer programs for relaxation as well as stimulation, and to encourage personal and community enrichment for the citizens of Springfield and Greene County, Missouri

Location: Rutledge-Wilson Farm Community Park is located at 3825 West Farm Road 146, Springfield, MO 65802

Contact Information:

- For general farm or event information, please call the main line at Rutledge-Wilson Farm
 - (417) 837-5949
- To schedule a field trip or register for any of the farm's education programs; please contact
 - Nick Breithaupt, Farm Park Supervisor, at (417) 837-5945
- www.parkboard.org
 - Click on Rutledge-Wilson Farm under parks

Availability: Rutledge-Wilson Farm is open to the public year-round Tuesdays-Sundays from 9 a.m. – 5 p.m.

Programs:

◦ School Programs	◦ Home-school groups
◦ Scout Groups	◦ Pre-school groups
◦ Summer Camps	

Age/Grade Level: The programs at Rutledge-Wilson Farm are grade specific and designed for children pre-K through 5th grade. The park, however, is available for adults and kids of all ages to enjoy as well.

Group Size: There is no limit to group size. Large groups may need to be split into smaller groups if they are attending an educational program.

Student/Adult Ratio: Field trip supervision must be provided by the school (with teachers and parents.) Student/Adult ratio will be determined by the school.

Fees: General park admission is free. There is a charge of \$1.50 per student for educational programs. Please contact the farm for other program prices.

Lunch: There are picnic tables available for group use on a first-come basis.

Special Parks and Facilities

Springfield-Greene County Park Board

Mission: The Springfield-Greene County Park Board is committed to provide the highest quality of leisure opportunities, to offer programs for relaxation as well as stimulation, and to encourage personal and community enrichment for the citizens of Springfield and Greene County.

Location:

***Lake Springfield Park**, 2312 E. Lake Springfield Park Road. The 158-acre park is currently open every day, sunrise to sunset. There is pavilion/picnic area with playground equipment available (first-come basis). The area has both open, grassy spaces and wooded areas (home to a variety of wildlife and birds) and borders the north shore of Lake Springfield. A special use area, The Northwoods Pavilion, can be reserved for group activities (contact 891-1550). The property has a 4,000-square-foot Boathouse and Marina with a 1,450-square-foot deck area overlooking the lake. The building also has a community meeting room, a warming kitchen, retail shop with canoe and kayak rentals and public restrooms. The community meeting room features an expanse of glass with views across the deck to the lake. The park ties into the James River Linear Park Trail, has a greenway trail and hiking trail throughout the property.

***Valley Water Mill Park & Equestrian Center**, 4007 N. Farm Rd. 171, Springfield, MO 65803

Facility: Features a classroom area in the “brick farm house”, an eight stall instructional barn, indoor and outdoor riding arenas, Kiddie Hay Corral and Miniature Horse Petting Pen.

Directions: From I-44 and Glenstone, Go North on Glenstone ½ mile, Turn Right on Valley Water Mill. At the dead end, turn Left onto Fm Rd 171. Stay to the left around pond dam and Turn Left into entrance. Do not use Mapquest or TomTom! Those computer programs will send you 5 miles north!

Contact Information: Contact Lynn VandenBerg, Equestrian Center Coordinator at (417) 833-3291.

Availability: Valley Water Mill is open to the public year-round Tuesdays-Sundays from 9am until 5pm and after hours by appointment.

Programs: School Programs, Scout Programs, Summer Camps, Home-School Groups, Pre School Groups.

Age/Grade Level: The programs at Valley Water Mill are grade specific and designed for children K through 12th grade. Horses are available for hands on demonstrations.

Group Size/Student Ratio: There is no limit to group size. Large groups may be split into smaller groups if they are attending educational programs. Field trip Supervision must be provided by the school (with teachers and parents.) Student /Adult ratio will be determined by school regulations.

Fees: General Park Admission is free. Educational programs range from \$2 to \$10 per child depending on the scope of the activities. Many equestrian programs can be tailored to current curriculum. All students leave with informational handouts.

Springfield Regional Arts Council

Mission: The Springfield Regional Arts Council is an umbrella organization connecting and supporting the arts organizations in the region. We provide information about activities and events such as plays, concerts, recitals and arts exhibitions. In addition, we are developing the Creamery Arts Center as a place for children and families to receive visual and performing arts education. The Creamery will include exhibits, hands-on art activities, workshops, and special events. Contact us for information about the arts or for any activities currently taking place.

Location: 411 N. Sherman, Springfield, MO 65802 (Located in the Creamery Arts Center at the corner of Jordan Valley Park along the Greenways Trail, within easy walking distance of the Discovery Center)

Contact Information: Kay Logsdon, Executive Director Info@springfieldarts.com,
417/869-8380, Fax: 417/862-7877

Availability: The Creamery will be open beginning in September. M-F 9-5. Extended or weekend hours are available with advance notice.

Programs: Programs in development include “Art in the Parks,” and “Anyone For Art,” which would include classes in pottery and other art forms primarily for elementary ages.

Age/Grade Level: Classes will be primarily for elementary ages; the facilities of the Park and Creamery will be geared to families.

Group Size: Flexible

Student/Adult Ratio: Depends on the activity; the Arts Council can provide assistance for most events with enough notice.

Fees: Currently no admission is charged; there may be fees for specific education programs or for supplies. The goal is to provide free exposure to the arts as much as possible. The program is still in development so call for details of tours or special classes.

Notes: The Springfield Regional Arts Council is always willing to collaborate with other agencies and educational resources in the area to provide specialized events and activities that would be organized to meet specific needs.

Lunch Provisions: There are downtown restaurants and a cantina at the neighboring Ice Arena. We recommend a picnic lunch in Jordan Valley Park. The Creamery does not at this time have water fountains or food/drink facilities. Public restrooms are being built in Jordan Valley Park, right outside the Creamery building.

University of Missouri Extension

Mission: The primary purpose of the University of Missouri Extension is to serve Missouri by extending the research-based knowledge and problem-solving resources of the University of Missouri System to people throughout the state. The Greene County Extension Council is the publicly elected governing body that helps MU Extension identify and address local issues. Educational publications (guide sheets) and programs are available in the following subject areas: Horticulture, agriculture, gardening, 4-H youth development, nutrition, human development, urban programming, community development, civic engagement, home design and more.

Location: 2400 S. Scenic, Springfield, MO 65807; offices are in the Botanical Center in Nathaneal Greene Park.

Contact Information: telephone 417-881-8909; email GreeneCo@missouri.edu; or visit our website <http://extension.missouri.edu/greene/>.

Availability: the Greene County MU Extension office is open 8:30am-4:30pm Monday through Friday. Programming is scheduled as requested.

Programs: Extension specialists in southwest Missouri are available to present programs on topics related to agricultural profitability and viability; human development and individual strengths; business, community and economic development; enhancing health and nutrition; environmental quality and stewardship and youth development. Additional information is found at <http://extension.missouri.edu/greene/services.aspx>

Specific programs include:

Horticulture: The horticulture program provides educational opportunities for home horticulture and commercial horticulture interests in the SW region.

Master Gardening: The Master Gardener program provides in-depth horticultural training to individuals who then volunteer their time applying what they have learned to help others in their community to learn about gardening and environmental education.

4-H: 4-H is a volunteer-led organization that reaches youth ages 8-18. 4-H members decide for themselves which of more than 50 projects they want to learn more about. Projects use hands-on learning experiences to teach subject matter and life-skills such as cooperation, problem solving, and decision making. A pre-4-H program called Clover Kids is offered for children 5-7 years of age.

Age/Grade Level: programs are available for people of all ages.

Group Size: Programs are available on an individual basis and for groups of all sizes

Student/Adult Ratio: specific to individual programs.

Fees: specific to individual programs.

Notes: Other services at the Greene County MU Extension office include soil testing, plant insect and disease diagnosis, the Master Gardener hotline for assistance with gardening questions, and publications on a wide range of topics.

Watershed Committee of the Ozarks

Mission: The Watershed Committee of the Ozarks is a not-for-profit 501(c)3 whose mission is to preserve and improve the water supplies of Springfield and Greene County through education and effective management of the region's watersheds. The Watershed Center is the home to over two miles of hiking trails, fishing at Valley Water Mill Lake, and the C.W. Titus Education Facility, a LEED certified demonstration building. We are happy to offer field trips, tours, and other educational programs right on the banks of one of Springfield's drinking water sources.

Location: 2450 East Valley Water Mill Road, Springfield, MO 65803

Contact Information: Rob Hunt – Watershed Center Coordinator.

Email: rob@watershedcommittee.org Phone: 417-833-8525 Fax: 417-833-9269

Availability: Rob Hunt will be happy to schedule and organize a field trip for your school or organization. We rely heavily on volunteer educators for our field trips, so advanced notice and planning is appreciated. Our programs can be customized to fit your learning goals and group size so we can be sure to meet the needs of your group.

Programs: Stream Team activities, Watershed Scavenger Hunt, Interpretive Hikes, Watershed stations, Green Building Demonstrations, Jordan Creek Underground Tours, and many more. You can find all of our program description on our website, www.watershedcommittee.org, under Watershed Center Education.

Age/Grade Level: Any age

Group Size: Group sizes can range from as few as five students, to as many as one-hundred.

Student/Adult Ratio: Prefer at least one adult per ten children

Fees: Free! There is no charge for Watershed Center tours or activities.

Lunch Provisions: Outdoor areas, including a covered pavilion, are available for picnic lunches that the group is responsible for providing.

Wildcat Glades Conservation and Audubon Center

Mission: The Audubon Nature Center opened in the fall of 2007. Programs are currently offered as requested and focus on the interpretation and management of the last remaining 60 acres of globally unique chert glade habitat and the Shoal Creek natural resource.

Location: Joplin, Missouri in Wildcat Park - Located in south Joplin near the intersection of I-44 and HWY 86

Contact Information: Phone: 417-782-6287

Hours: Wednesday – Saturday 9am – 5pm; Sunday 12pm – 4pm (March – October).

Website: <http://www.wildcatglades.audubon.org>

Availability: Field programs and activities are available Wednesday - Friday, 9am-5pm, year round. Programs must be scheduled a minimum of two weeks in advance and registration for the next school year begins in August. Public programs are often available on Saturdays.

Programs: Programs focus on outdoor presentations, activities or interpretive trail hikes and can be tailored to your classroom or group needs. Most programs follow state GLE's. For more information, go to "Just for Teachers" on our website for a list of programs.

Age/grade level: Programs are available for all ages and grade levels.

Group Size: Maximum 60, which will often be divided into smaller groups. Groups will stay with their classroom for field programs and trail hikes.

Student/Adult ratios: One adult chaperone per ten children is recommended.

Fees: No entrance fee. Program fees are charged dependent on program or activity. No funding is available to help with transportation costs.

Lunch Provisions: Groups may picnic at Wildcat Park or visit nearby fast food facilities. Snacks and drinks are available for purchase in the gift shop.



Wilson's Creek National Battlefield

Mission: The purpose of Wilson's Creek National Battlefield is to commemorate the Battle of Wilson's Creek and to preserve the associated battlefield.

Location: 6424 W. Farm Road 182, Republic. The site is located ten miles southwest of Springfield, between the cities of Battlefield and Republic.

Contact Information: wicr_superintendent@nps.gov Phone: 417-732-2662 x227. The battlefield Visitor Center is open seven days a week, 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. The Civil War Museum is not currently open for visitation. Design planning and other preparations are being made to move the museum collection to its new location at the main Visitor Center. Estimated re-opening date is summer of 2013. Hours for the battlefield Tour Road may be extended during the spring, summer and fall.

Availability: Curriculum based educational programs are available Monday through Friday during the months of April and May depending upon volunteer and staff availability. Advance reservations are required for all groups and can be made by contacting the park's education office. A variety of interpretive programs and special events are typically offered on weekends throughout the year.

Programs: Educational programs offered include a 30 minute orientation DVD, an eight minute fiber-optics terrain map presentation; talk/tour of the Ray House, a farmhouse used as a field hospital during the battle; a Civil War medical talk and a common soldier program. K – 12 Curriculum guides are available in a downloadable format on the battlefield's website: www.nps.gov/wicr. Traveling trunks are also available for classroom use at no charge. Groups will also be given time to tour the Visitor Center exhibit area and bookstore on their own. Additional information for scheduling a school visit can be obtained by contacting the battlefield's Education coordinator at: (417) 732 – 2662 ext. 385.

Age/grade level: Programs are available for 4th-12th grade.

Group Size: Depending on the size of the bus the battlefield can accommodate up to five buses on one day

Student/Adult Ratio: One adult chaperone per ten children is recommended; more are encouraged, especially with younger groups.

Fees: A fee waiver for educational groups should be requested in writing prior to the scheduled visit. Funding is not available to help with transportation costs. Bus parking is provided. The Fee Waiver Request form is available on-line at www.nps.gov/wicr or by contacting the park outreach coordinator at (417) 732 – 2662 ext. 385.

Lunch Provisions: Food is not allowed in the Visitor Center. A picnic area with a covered pavilion located near the Visitor Center is available for sack lunches. Beverage vending machines are located near the picnic area.

Wonders of the Ozarks Learning Facility WOLF

Mission: To achieve academic excellence through a rigorous core academic program, in the context of the outdoors and conservation science, which instills a sense of integrity and respect of the natural world.

Location: Wonders of Wildlife Educational Center, 726 W., Springfield, MO

Contact Information: Phone: 417- 523-0117

Website: <http://springfieldpublicschoolsmo.org/wolf/index.htm>

About WOLF: Wonders of the Ozarks Learning Facility (WOLF) is a school of choice created by Springfield Public Schools for 5th graders with a special interest in nature and the outdoors. The school was developed in collaboration with Wonders of Wildlife Museum and Bass Pro.

Students will attend WOLF each day school is in session. Their physical classroom will be at the Wonders of Wildlife Educational Center, 726 W. Sunshine. However, they will spend a substantial amount of time engaged in hands-on inquiry “in the field,” including the aquariums and displays at Bass Pro Shop.

Two WOLF teachers will instruct two classes of 5th grade students in the same core curriculum as other Springfield 5th graders. The difference will be that all subjects are taught in the context of nature and conservation education.

Age/Grade Level: 5th grade

Availability: Only by appointment

